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(54) **PATTERN SEPARATION DEVICE**

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(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To separate a material or a pattern having middle brightness by extracting only a signal in a level range including the level range of the signal obtained from the pattern to be separated or removing a signal in the level range of the signal obtained from the pattern to obtain a binary signal.

CONSTITUTION: In case of data processing of a video signal indicating the brightness of an image, only a signal  $P_1$  in a level range including the level range of the signal obtained from a material or a pattern  $\alpha$  to be separated is extracted from the video signal or the signal in the level range of a signal  $Q_1$  obtained from a material or a pattern  $\beta$  to be removed is removed from the video signal to obtain a binary signal C. Thus, the material or the pattern having the middle luminance between a part having the highest brightness and a part having the lowest brightness of the image is separated without extending the data processing time of the binary signal neither increasing the memory capacity required for the data processing.

